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## CURRENTS

### SECURITY BREACH CHARGED

A storm is brewing over a June 22 Random House book, "The Invisible Government" by David Wise and Thomas B. Ross. A recent column by Marquis Childs in the *Washington Post* quoted unnamed "high government officials" as being deeply disturbed about the information disclosed in the book as to the operations of the CIA, the National Security Agency and an even more top secret central coordinating group. Mr. Childs' "high official" was quoted as saying that if a book like this were published in the Soviet Union "the authors could be put in jail for life." According to the *Washington Post* the Wise-Ross book contains 112 breaches of security, some of them so serious that the usefulness of certain CIA agents will be destroyed by the disclosures in the book. It is also charged that supposedly secret operations are revealed in detail.

### RANDOM HOUSE'S REBUTTAL

Random House's reply to all this is that no such allegations about breaches of security have been made formally to the firm by any government official and that they are, in fact, "nonsense," since all of the material in the book has been published in one way or another previously. Random House president Bennett Cerf takes the position that it would be contrary to the public interest to try to suppress the book. Since the Marquis Childs column appeared the publishing house has received many letters from individuals anxious to order the book before the CIA takes any action against it. The first printing is 20,000 copies and the "high government officials" quoted by Mr. Childs were reported to have said that it would be to the advantage of the government to buy up all the advance copies on condition the book would be revised.

### SHAKESPEARE BANQUET AT HAMPTON COURT

"By gracious permission of Her Majesty the Queen," Hampton Court Banquet Hall will be opened for a banquet, for the first time in some 300 years, on June 24. The occasion is a "Midsummer Night's Dinner"